

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated July 12, 2005. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Also, the Examiner is respectfully advised that Japanese Application No. 2000-523757, identified on page 3 of the Specification, corresponds to U.S. Application Serial No. 09/555,010. Submitted concurrently herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement providing for consideration a copy of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/555,010. Entry and consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

As outlined above, Claims 1 through 13 are currently pending in this application. Claims 2 and 11 through 13 have been amended to correct formal errors, place the claims in better form and to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject invention. Entry of the amendments to the Claims 2 and 11 through 13 is respectfully requested.

Additional Amendments:

The Specification and the Abstract of the Disclosure have been amended to correct formal errors and to better disclose and describe the features of the present invention. Entry of the amendments to the Specification and to the Abstract of the Disclosure is respectfully requested.

Formal Objection/Rejection

The Abstract of the Disclosure was objected to in view of its length. In response, the Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended to address this objection. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract of the Disclosure is respectfully requested.

Also, in response to the comment on page 2 of the Office Action as to the specification, the specification has been amended to correct formal errors and to better disclose and describe the features of the present invention.

Claim 11 and, as understood, Claim 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second

paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In response, Claims 11 through 13 have been amended and include amendments addressing this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 11 through 13 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

The Office Action on page 3 states that Claims 11 through 13 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Therefore, in view of the amendments to Claims 11 through 13, it is respectfully believed that Claims 11 through 13 are in condition for allowance.

The Office Action on page 3 also states that Claims 1 through 10 are allowed.

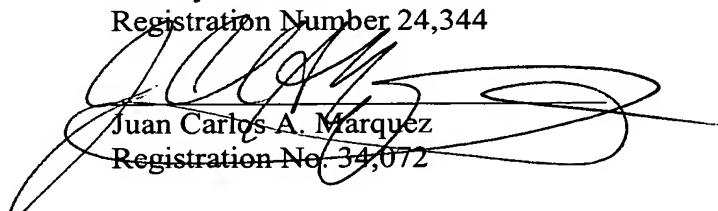
Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 11 through 13, and confirmation of the allowability of Claims 1 through 10, are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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September 12, 2005
SPF/JCM/JB